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ABSTRACT

The basic objective of this study was to evaluate the educational value of fairs as perceived by Youth Leaders, Educators, and Fair Judges. The study sub-objectives were: (1) to provide a general description of the demographic characteristics of the groups surveyed; (2) to describe the nature and extent of their involvement in fair-related work; (3) to determine their evaluation of judging at fairs; (4) to determine the general evaluation of fairs and what might be done to improve them; and (5) to answer some questions about the state subsidy for County and District Fairs, and the possible consolidation of fairs. The five groups who were sent questionnaires were: Youth Leaders (voluntary leaders of 4-H clubs), Vocational Agriculture Teachers, 4-H Club Agents, County Agents, and Fair Judges. The data gathered suggest that county and district fairs fill important needs of the people in Wisconsin. County and district fairs were adjudged to fill not only educational needs, but social and vocational needs as well. The 4-H Club Agents appear to be the most involved in fair work and Vocational Agriculture Teachers the least. An appendix presents tabulations of the questionnaire data. (DB)

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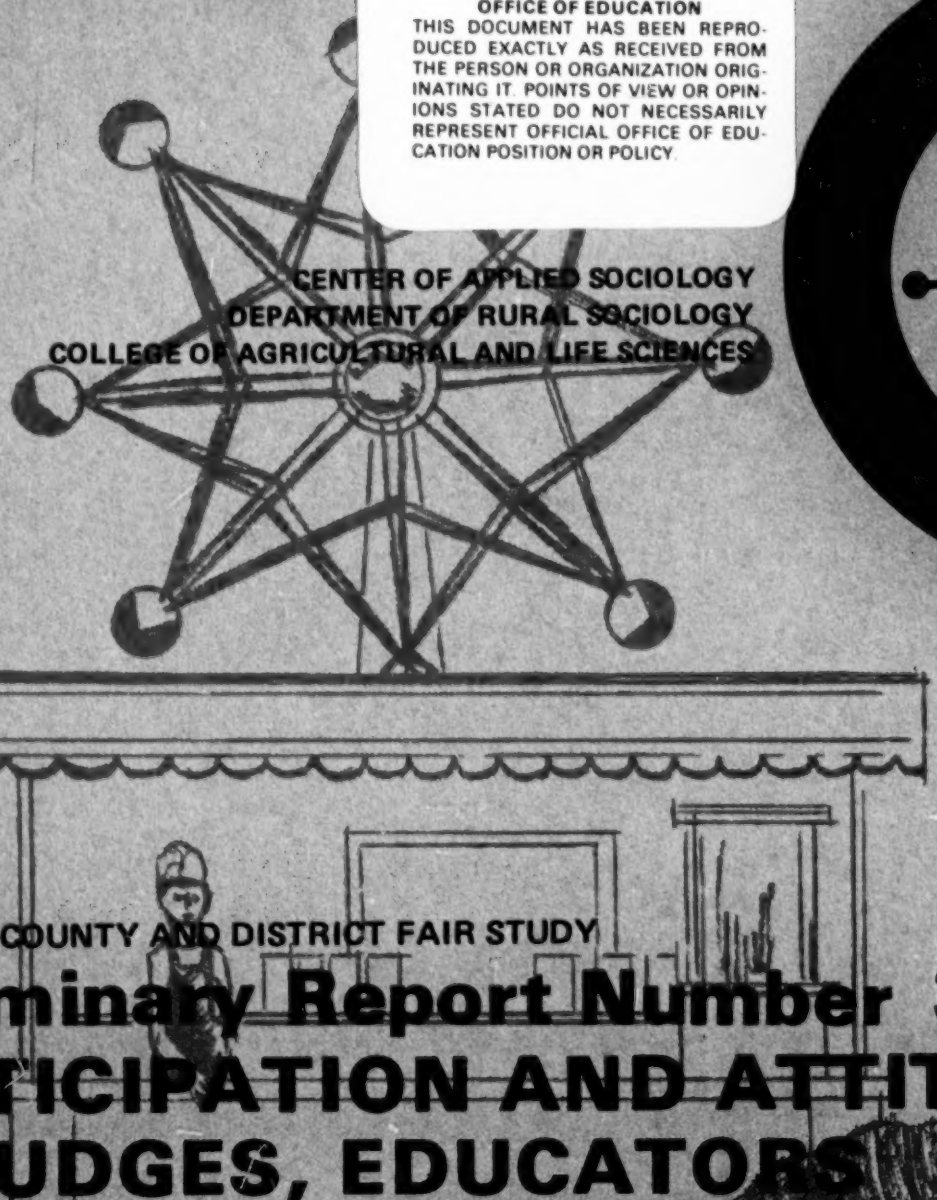


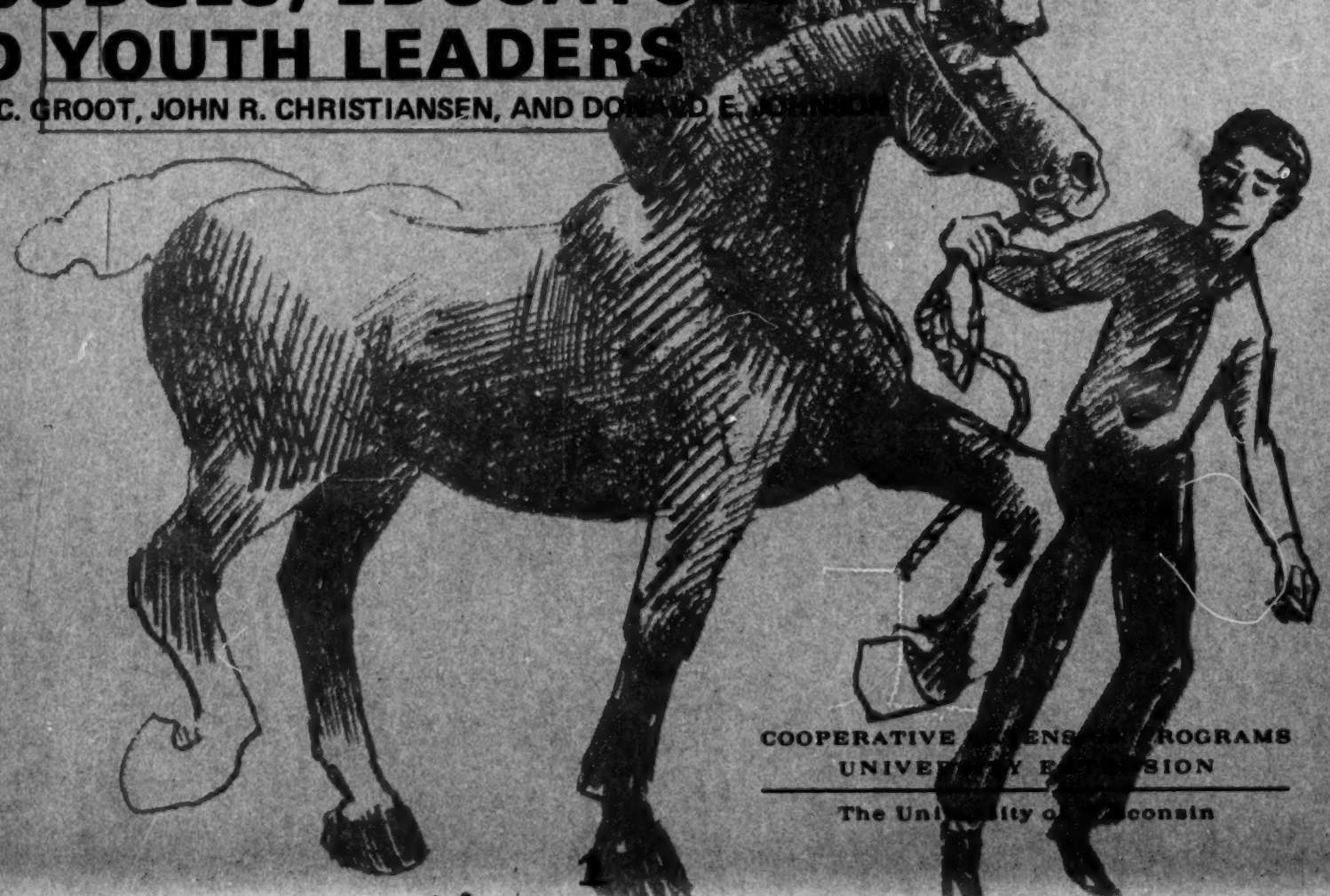
WISCONSIN COUNTY AND DISTRICT FAIR STUDY

Preliminary Report Number 3

PARTICIPATION AND ATTITUDES OF JUDGES, EDUCATORS AND YOUTH LEADERS

BY HANS C. GROOT, JOHN R. CHRISTIANSEN, AND DONALD E. JOHNSON

1971



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CONTENTS

		Page
I	Preface	
I	Introduction Objectives of the Study Methodology	1
II	Characteristics of Youth Leaders, Educators, and Judges Age Sex Education Place of Residence Occupation	2
III	Involvement in Fairs Fair Attendance Responsibility at Fairs Number of Hours Spent On Fair Work State Fair Attendance Responsibility at State Fair	3
IV	The Educational Value of Fairs How Much Do Youths Learn What Do Youths Learn Comparative Learning Experience Improving the Educational Value of Fairs	5
V	Exhibit Judging Quality of Judging Required Attendance of Exhibitors During Judging	7
VI	Judges No. Classes Qualified to Judge and Actually Judged Why Do They Judge Judging Plans Judging Fees	9
VII	Exhibit Regulations Requiring Youths to Exhibit Exhibiting at More Than One Fair Exhibit Competition At Fairs	10
VIII	General Fair Evaluation Most Important Aspects of Fairs Least Important Aspects of Fairs Harmful Aspects of Fairs Suggestions for Improving Fairs Criteria for Measuring a Fair's Success The Changing Importance of Fairs	12

IX	Fair Subsidy and Consolidation Flexibility In Spending the Subsidy Continuing the Subsidy Expected Effect of Eliminating the Subsidy Consolidation of Fairs	15
X	SUMMARY	17
XI	IMPLICATIONS	20
XII	Appendix	22

PREFACE

The Center of Applied Sociology has accepted the responsibility for evaluating county and district fairs in Wisconsin. This is the third of nine proposed reports being developed by the Center dealing with this evaluation. The evaluation project is being made easier by the excellent cooperation of many individuals and groups who are deeply concerned about the future of fairs in the state. Among these are the following whom we gratefully recognize and thank:

University Extension and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin, cosponsors of the study; the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Local Affairs and Development, State of Wisconsin, who have legal authority for the supervision and coordination of fairs; the Wisconsin Association of Fairs and its president, W. A. Uthmeier; the Wisconsin Exposition Center, Vernon G. Wendland, Administrator, and Leslie C. Hayden, Supervisor of County and District Fairs. Most importantly, the hundreds of Wisconsin citizens who have responded in such spendid fashion to requests for vitally needed information.

The leader of this project is Dr. John R. Christiansen, Visiting Professor of Sociology from Brigham Young University, assisted by Dr. Hans C. Groot, Department of Agricultural Journalism, and Mrs. Lorna Miller, specialist with the Center of Applied Sociology.

Donald E. Johnson, Director
Center of Applied Sociology
June, 1971

INTRODUCTION

Objectives of the Study

The basic objective of the study reported herein was to evaluate the educational value of fairs as perceived by Youth Leaders, Educators and Fair judges. There were several sub-objectives. The first of these was to provide a general description of the demographic characteristics of the groups surveyed. The second was to describe the nature and extent of their involvement in fair-related work. The third was to determine their evaluation of judging at fairs; fourth, to determine the general evaluation of fairs and what might be done to improve them. The fifth sub-objective was to answer some questions about the state subsidy for County and District Fairs, and the possible consolidation of fairs.

Methodology

Included in this part of the study were five groups: Youth Leaders (voluntary leaders of 4-H clubs), Vocational Agriculture (Vo-Ag) Teachers, 4-H Club Agents, County Agents and Fair Judges. Questionnaires were sent to all County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers, and 4-H Club Agents. As for the other two groups, questionnaires were sent to random samples of both Youth Leaders (drawn from a list supplied by the State 4-H Office) and Judges (drawn from the list of accredited judges supplied by the Wisconsin Exposition Center).

After pretesting, questionnaires were sent to 213 Youth Leaders and 189 (88.5%) were returned; 186 questionnaires were usable. There were 256 Vo-Ag Teachers who returned questionnaires, all of which were usable. For the 4-H Club Agent group, 68 questionnaires were sent out, 67 (98%) were returned and 65 were usable. Seventy-one County Agents were sent questionnaires, 71 (100%) were returned and 70 were usable--one County Agent had retired. For the Judges, 249 questionnaires were sent out, 233 (96%) were returned and 126 were found to be usable--those who did not judge in 1970 were dropped from the analysis.

Occasional use is made of the combined responses of all five groups from whom data were obtained. Generalizations from the totals should be considered with caution, since Vo-Ag Teachers' and Youth Leaders' responses are overrepresented due to unequal sample sizes.

All responses were edited, coded, punched into machine cards and analyzed using the UNIVAC 1108 computer of the University of Wisconsin Computer Center.

CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH LEADERS, EDUCATORS, AND JUDGES

Age

Generally speaking, 4-H Club Agents were the youngest and County Agents the oldest of the five groups surveyed; 86 percent of the Club Agents were less than 45 years of age but only 37 percent of the County Agents were less than 45 years of age. Respective figures for the other three groups are Vo-Ag Teachers 72 percent, Youth Leaders 64 percent and Judges 56 percent. The groups with the largest percentage of people aged 60 or over were Judges (15%) (Table 1A).*

Sex

Three of the groups are predominantly males--Vo-Ag Teachers 100 percent, County Agents 96 percent, and 4-H Club Agents 91 percent. Nearly half (44%) of the Judges were females, while most Youth Leaders (80%) were females (Table 1B).

Education

The three professional groups--4-H Club Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and County Agents--have achieved the highest educational level of the five groups with 100, 99, and 97 percent reporting to be college graduates, respectively. Some 12 percent of the Youth Leaders had attained a college degree, as had 74 percent of the Judges (Table 1C).

* All tables referred to in the text can be found in the Appendi .

Place of Residence

In terms of where they live, Youth Leaders appear to have the strongest rural ties--78 percent of whom reported that they lived on farms or in the open country. This finding compares with 46 percent for Judges; and 30, 26, and 23 percent for Vo-Ag Teachers, 4-H Club Agents and County Agents, respectively. This is probably not too surprising as the Youth Leaders surveyed were all volunteer adults working with 4-H groups, whose membership comprises predominantly rural youth.

As Table 2 indicates, most of the County and 4-H Club Agents reported that they lived in either small or large cities--72 and 68 percent, respectively. Some 47 percent of the Judges lived in either small or large cities as did 43 percent of the Vo-Ag Teachers, but only 13 percent of the Youth Leaders said they lived in either small or large cities.

Overall, 46 percent of the respondents lived on farms or in the open county and 41 percent said they lived in either small or large cities.

Occupation

Youth Leaders and Judges were also asked about their regular occupations. For the former group, the largest percentage (60%) were housewives, while in the latter the largest percentage (56%) were professionals. For both both Judges and Youth Leaders, the second largest occupational category was farming--with 13 percent each (Table 3).

A further breakdown of the Judges' group showed that of the 56 percent who were professionals, 28 percent were extension personnel, 21 percent were teachers and the other seven percent held some other professional job.

INVOLVEMENT IN FAIRS

Fair Attendance

Very few members of any of the five groups surveyed did not attend

any district or county fairs at all in 1970. As shown in Table 4A, Youth Leaders attended the fewest number of fairs--61 percent said they had attended only one fair in 1970. On the other hand, substantial majorities of the other four groups indicated they had attended two or more fairs in 1970.

Responsibility at Fairs

A majority of the Youth Leaders (79%) reported they had some responsibility at one district or county fair during the 1970 fair season. The 4-H Club Agents, however, appear to have been involved more in fairs than the other groups. Sixty-one percent said they had some responsibility at two or more fairs. This finding compares with 52 and 38 percent for the Judges and Vo-Ag Teachers, respectively. (Table 4B).

Both Youth Leaders and Vo-Ag Teachers were also queried about the type of work they do at fairs. Most frequently mentioned by Youth Leaders were educational activities (19%), service functions (assisting with exhibit arrangements, clean-up, etc.) (19%), a combination of educational, administrative and service work (17%), and a combination of administrative and service work (11%). On the other hand, Vo-Ag Teachers mentioned a combination of education-administrative-service work most frequently (30%), administrative work (18%), and educational work (15%).

Number of Hours Spent on Fair Work

Of the four groups asked about the time they spent on fair work, County Agents and 4-H Club Agents reported spending the most number of hours. County Agents, on the average, spent 59 hours before official fair dates on fair work, 56 hours during the fair and another 28 hours after fairs had closed to the public. Corresponding figures for the 4-H Club Agents are 63, 54, and 24 hours. Vo-Ag Teachers came next with 29 hours before fair opening, 35 hours during the fair and another 11 hours after the fair had closed.

The corresponding hours for Youth Leaders were 16, 19, and 9 hours (Table 5).

State Fair Attendance

A large majority of the 4-H Club Agents (74%) attended the State Fair in 1970 as did a majority of the Vo-Ag Teachers (55%). Of the Judges, County Agents, and Youth Leaders; 44, 41, and 14 percent, respectively, had attended the State Fair in 1970 (Table 6A).

Responsibility at the State Fair

The data on responsibilities at the State Fair are difficult to interpret because of the relatively large category of "No Response," (Table 6B). They do suggest, however, that of the four groups questioned, 4-H Club Agents were the most active with 62 percent reporting some responsibility at the State Fair. Overall, 24 percent of the respondents in the four groups had some responsibility at the State Fair in 1970.

THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF FAIRS

How Much Do Youths Learn?

Most of the Youth Leaders (83%), Vo-Ag Teachers (82%), County Agents (76%) and Judges (70%) felt that youths learn either "much" or "very much" from activities connected with fairs. On the other hand, a smaller majority (57%) of the 4-H Club Agents gave similar responses. Relatively few of the respondents felt that youths learned "little" or "nothing"--the most negative responses coming from Judges (6%) and 4-H Club Agents (5%). As Table 7 shows, 77 percent of all respondents felt that youth learn "much" or "very much" and only three percent felt they learned "little" or "nothing."

What Do Youths Learn?

"Sportsmanship" was cited most frequently by both Youth Leaders (30%) and Vo-Ag Teachers (23%) as one of the things youths learn from their

exhibiting experience. On the other hand, the most frequent response of County Agents, 4-H Club Agents and Judges was concerning what youths learn from exhibiting--"Judging and Evaluation"--with 27, 26, and 37 percent so responding, respectively (Table 8).

A number of respondents mentioned that youths really learn a variety of things from their fair-related work rather than any one thing. Fairly typical of this viewpoint is the response of two Judges:

> "You can't learn much by showing one day but it's all the hours and days of work preparing for the fair. This preparation teaches patience, skill in grooming, riding, health care, showsmanship, horsemanship, and love with their animals. Exhibiting lets all these skills be brought together--good or bad."

> "Under appropriate adult guidance, I feel most strongly that youngsters learn responsibility, develop competitive spirit, and learn to accept and cope with 'set-backs' as well as achievement. All of these things add up to character development and a young man or woman better fitted to live in, and control and shape the destiny of their society."

Comparative Learning Experience

To provide a frame of reference for the responses on how much youths learned from their fair activities, the five groups were also asked to evaluate the educational experience in terms of schoolday equivalents. Their responses are detailed in Table 9.

Youth Leaders and Judges appear to perceive the greatest educational value in exhibiting. Thus 16 and 14 percent of them, respectively, said the exhibiting experience was worth "30 or more" schooldays (Table 7).

Two typical comments of respondents regarding this question were:

> "I think the independent and individual way a child prepares for a fair has great value, when compared to the 'group' situation of a schoolroom."

"Fairs often provide a needed supplement to schools. It uses one of the educational principles--a new approach to the same subject and repetition. Both are important to learning. The fair is an entirely different situation and shouldn't be compared to school. So much more goes into a fair than just the few days it runs."

Improving the Educational Value of Fairs

The most frequent suggestion of all the groups, except Vo-Ag Teachers, was to improve the judging situation at fairs. The most frequent suggestion of Vo-Ag Teachers was to improve fair programs. Other frequently given suggestions for improving fairs concerned needed changes in exhibiting rules and having greater youth involvement (Table 10).

Some typical comments of respondents were:

"In some cases more supervision should be given by 4-H Leaders and ag teachers and let the 'kids' do the work--not mom and dad."

"We must cater exhibits more toward the urban people."

"Eliminate outdated livestock and crop classes and add modern classes such as dairy steers."

"I feel very strongly that the money or premium tie inhibits learning that takes place. Too many youths are premium oriented rather than education oriented as far as exhibiting is concerned."

"One of my major criticisms of the present aid to county fairs is that there is not enough flexibility allowed in the uniform premium list to provide worthwhile learning experiences."

"Stress classes that pertain to the locality's dominant livelihood such as dairying, forestry, conservation, etc. Then have judges capable of turning a showing into a classroom."

EXHIBIT JUDGING

Quality of Judging

Even though they felt judging could be improved at fairs, most respondents seemed to be satisfied with the performance of the judges (Table 11A). Interestingly, a higher percentage of Vo-Ag Teachers (91%)

and County Agents (90%) were pleased with the quality of judging than the judges themselves (83%). The most frequently given criticism given by respondents about judging concerned the criteria used for judging (Table 11B).

A number of respondents made comments such as:

"Judges do not have the time to provide individual counseling to the individual exhibitor."

"The criticism of the judge could be of value, but again upon what criteria is the judging being done? Appearance? Values current in the 'establishment?' Shallow standards need to be eliminated."

"Cut out the Danish system of judging."

"Some judges tend to judge according to who is exhibiting."

"Very poor judges in some judging areas, especially in market livestock. Let's try and get livestock authorities from the packing industry to judge if possible. Some judges are picking the opposite of what the packer wants."

"We need qualified judges. We need help from extension in setting up schools for judges."

"Most small fairs expect an individual to judge beef, sheep and swine. No one can do a good job on all three--judge gets tired and nobody has an eye for all three."

Again, however, the level of satisfaction with judging was high. Some 83 percent of all respondents said they were pleased with the quality of judging.

Required Attendance of Exhibitors During Judging

It has frequently been argued that while exhibit preparation is an educationally valuable experience, a critical evaluation of the exhibit with the exhibitor present is of equal if not greater value. This argument is supported from the data collected in this study (Table 8). All of the five groups studied cited the critical skills learned from judging and evaluation as important aspects of the educational experience.

Additionally, all five groups were also asked if they recommended that exhibitors be present while their exhibits are being judged. Their responses, shown in Table 12, show that the majority of each group felt that exhibitors should be present during judging. The percentage of respondents with this opinion ranged from 52 percent among the Youth Leaders to 89 percent of the Vo-Ag Teachers. Overall, nearly three-fourths (73%) of all respondents felt that exhibitors should be present during the judging of their exhibits.

JUDGES

No. Classes Qualified to Judge and Actually Judged

Judges, on the average, said they were qualified to judge about six different classes of exhibits, but the number of classes they actually judged in 1970 averaged just over three. Quite a few Judges (32%) reported being qualified to judge nine or more different classes but (as shown below) only 14 percent actually judged that many or more classes of exhibits.

Number of Classes	Number of Classes Qualified	Number of Classes Judged (N=126)
1	21%	30%
2	6	25
3	6	13
4	12	8
5	10	5
6	5	2
7	6	2
8	3	-
9 or more	32	14
No response		2

As expected, Judges generally judged fewer classes than they were actually qualified to judge.

Why Do They Judge?

The most frequent reason cited by judges for taking part in judging was that they enjoy judging work (26%). Others want to contribute to the

community (21%), keep up to date in their field of interest (14%), or are just interested in special classes of exhibits (11%).

Judging Plans

The overwhelming majority of Judges (97%) plans to judge again in 1971.

Because of the current economic situation, Judges were also asked about their judging plans if no fees were to be paid to them in 1971. Almost equally divided in their responses, some 48 percent of the Judges said they would still judge if not paid, whereas 50 percent said they would not judge if not paid for their work.

Judging Fees

Judges also were asked about the average fee they had been paid in 1970 as well as what they felt should be the average judging fee. A substantial majority (75%), reported earning an average of about $30 and just about half of the respondents (48%) felt this was about the right amount.

Amount	Percent Earning This Fee 1970	Suggested Average Fee (N=126)
$ 0 - 9	2%	2%
10 - 19	4	4
20 - 39	75	48
40 - 59	8	22
60 - 79	2	4
80 - 99	2	2
No response	8	18

Not too surprisingly, there was a slight tendency for Judges to feel they should be paid a little more than they had been paid in the past.

EXHIBIT REGULATIONS

Requiring Youths to Exhibit

There was a considerable divergence of opinion as to whether or not members of such youth organizations as the 4-H, F.F.A. and F.H.A. should be

required to exhibit at fairs. A belief was evident among respondents that while such a regulation would likely increase the quantity of exhibits, it would not necessarily add to the quality of exhibits.

The majorities of only two groups, see Table 13A, Youth Leaders (57%) and Judges (50%), favored requiring members of youth organizations to exhibit at fairs. On the other hand, 4-H Club Agents (86%), Vo-Ag Teachers (79%) and County Agents (77%) were against such a requirement.

Overall, however, 73 percent of all respondents favored a rule requiring members of youth organizations to exhibit at fairs.

The 4-H Club Agents were also asked what percent of the 4-H Club members in their county usually exhibit at fairs. Some 39 percent of the Agents reported participation at better than 90%, another 34 percent said it was better than 80%.

Exhibiting At More Than One Fair

A somewhat related question is whether youths should be permitted to exhibit and compete at more than one fair. Only one group, Vo-Ag Teachers (65%) appeared to favor this. Two other groups were about evenly split on the Question--Youth Leaders (49%) and Judges (48%). Both 4-H Club Agents (65%) and County Agents (80%) were pretty much against allowing youths to exhibit at more than one fair. Overall, exactly one half of all respondents said that youths should be allowed to exhibit at more than one fair (Table 13B). Some respondents did express an apprehension about youths becoming 'professional exhibitors':

> "I'm against it because someone with an outstanding exhibit could make the rounds of fairs and clean up on all prizes."

Exhibit Competition at Fairs

Occasionally suggestions are heard to the effect that exhibit competition at fairs should be restricted to junior classes only. To

determine the extent of this opinion, we asked the five groups how they felt about this and found substantial majorities to be against it. As Table 13C shows, more than 70 percent of each of the groups said that fair competition should be open to both junior and open classes. Overall, 80 percent of all respondents said that fairs should be for both classes. Those who felt fairs should be for juniors only appeared worried that open-class exhibitors would dominate the show:

> "I know the importance of established breeders and what they have done for the industry, but I feel there are enough livestock expositions where they can participate that they shouldn't be subsidized at county and district fairs. Leave the fairs strictly for junior exhibitors."

GENERAL FAIR EVALUATION

Most Important Aspect of Fairs

While all groups favor fair competition in both open and junior classes, they also agree with substantial majorities that junior exhibits are the most important aspect of fairs. The extent to which this opinion was held ranged from a low of 75 percent for Judges to a high of 86 percent for the County Agents. The second most important aspect of fairs, see Table 14, for most groups was the open-class exhibits.

A number of respondents did point out, however, that fairs must continue to offer many features:

> "People go to a fair because there is a variety of things that all members of the family can do and enjoy--in one outing."

> "You need them all--midway, grandstand, exhibits, etc.--for a successful fair."

Least Important Aspect of Fairs

Considerably less agreement was found on what constitute some of the least important aspects of fairs. Most frequently cited by most of the

groups was the midway (Table 14). Also mentioned rather frequently as "least important" were the grandstand show and commercial exhibits.

Harmful Aspects of Fairs

The majorities of three groups--Youth Leaders (63%), Vo-Ag Teachers (59%) and County Agents (53%)--did not perceive any aspects of fairs to be of harm to youths. Two other groups were more critical--74 percent of the 4-H Club Agents and 63 percent of the Judges perceived harmful aspects.

The most frequently cited harmful aspect of fairs by all five groups was the overemphasis on winning. Other frequently cited harmful aspects were "unsafe midways, inconsistent judging," and "unfair competition." A number of respondents commented on parental influences:

> "A student who gives his full effort and loses to someone who obviously wins on the effort of a parent."
>
> "Richer parents provide better quality animals."
>
> "The freedom with which parents are allowed to prepare entries for showing."
>
> "Many times parents do the work. Too much emphasis on trophies and not enough on learning."
>
> "Extreme competition among parents to see their child succeed."

Overall, 52 percent of all respondents said there were no harmful aspects of fairs (Table 15).

Suggestions for Improving Fairs

The most frequently cited suggestion of all groups was to improve the exhibit facilities at fairs--this was mentioned by 31 percent of all respondents. Also high on the list for needed improvement were fair programs (11% of all respondents), fair organization (8%), and exhibit rules (7%) (Table 16). Specific suggestions for fair programs were to have more demonstrations and better grandstand and family programs. Some respondents suggested exhibits be catered more to urban people.

Criteria for Measuring A Fair's Success

County Agents and 4-H Club Agents were also asked about criteria to use in measuring a fair's success (Table 17). The most frequent criterion mentioned was the extent of community support a fair was able to muster--66 percent for both groups. Some typical comments made by the respondents were:

> "People have more other opportunities to learn about things and they travel much more. However, this doesn't mean that fairs are not still a valuable supplement in learning and life experience."
>
> "Profit is not a measure of a fair's success. We don't measure an educational effort in terms of profit."

The Changing Importance of Fairs

These same two groups were also asked whether they felt that relative to other activities in their counties, fairs were increasing, decreasing or remaining the same in terms of their importance. Combining the responses, 50 percent of the respondents felt that fairs were holding their own, while 22 percent felt the importance of fairs was decreasing and 27 percent felt they were increasing in importance (Table 18). When asked why they felt this way, the respondents mentioned such factors as changes in fair participation and competition from other events. Some typical comments were:

> "It's no longer the only place for learning the best crop or livestock selection process."
>
> "The social and educational opportunities provided by the fairs are not as unique as they once were."
>
> "Fairs are still a showplace for agriculture and the youth of the county. Community spirit is improved, actually it's increasing."
>
> "In terms of the total society, fairs at one time were an integral part of the community. Everyone looked forward to going a year ahead of the event. Competition with other events, TV, mobility of people, etc., have changed this."

FAIR SUBSIDY AND CONSOLIDATION

Flexibility in Spending the Subsidy

Under current regulations, the state subsidy to county and district fairs can be used only to pay the premiums for open and junior-class exhibits. Consequently, fair boards have no authority over these funds. Suggestions have been made from time to time that there should be more flexibility--that fair boards, for example, should be given the authority to decide how best to spend these funds to the advantage of their fairs.

When asked about this issue, the majorities of only two of the five groups surveyed for this report favored giving fair boards the authority to decide how to spend the subsidy. The favorable responses came from Youth Leaders (60%) and Vo-Ag Teachers (59%). As Table 19 shows, the majorities of the other three groups were against giving fair boards such authority--County Agents (67%), 4-H Club Agents (51%) and Judges (50%). Combining the responses of all five groups, however, showed that 52 percent favored giving fair boards the authority over how to allocate the state subsidy.

Continuing the Subsidy

The subsidy to district and county fairs, at present, is derived from State Fair profits. And, in view of the uncertain future of the State Fair, respondents were asked if the subsidy should be continued.

All of the groups, by large margins, favored continuing the state subsidy for county and district fairs. Most respondents, see Table 20, said the subsidy should be maintained at current levels (59%), but about one quarter of each group felt the subsidy should be increased. Only eight percent of all respondents suggested that the state subsidy be either reduced or eliminated. Some typical coments were:

> "My personal opinion is that if state aid is discontinued and if the State Fair is discontinued it will really prove we have penny-wise and dollar-foolish people in Madison."

"There are too many strings attached to get the money--that is, uniform premium list and modified Danish system and inequities in premiums."

"Fairs and 4-H projects give kids constructive things to do with their extra time. Busy kids don't have time to get into trouble. The money we spend on fair premiums is good preventive medicine for juvenile delinquency."

Expected Effect of Eliminating the Subsidy

What would happen if the subsidy were to be eliminated? Most of the respondents thought the effect would be fewer exhibits and generally weaker fairs. Combining the responses of the five groups, this was the opinion of 35 and 45 percent of the respondents, respectively. Only eight percent of all respondents felt there would be little effect if the subsidy were to be eliminated (Table 21).

The subsidy question and its possible elimination did elicit a number of comments:

"The money we spend on fair premiums is good preventive medicine for juvenile delinquency."

"Fairs would have to discontinue paying premiums. This would eliminate a few that exhibit large numbers of articles for money only, but in general the fair would be the same."

"I believe most counties would find a way to support their own fair. Poor agricultural counties or highly urbanized counties may eliminate theirs."

Consolidating Fairs

One way to reduce the total number of fairs and to eliminate some of the weaker ones is consolidation. The majority of all respondents (69%) were against any consolidation of fairs (Table 22). Two groups, County Agents (26%) and 4-H Club Agents (23%) showed little enthusiasm for consolidation. Even smaller percentages of the other three groups favored any consolidation--Vo-Ag Teachers (16%), Judges (16%), and Youth Leaders (4%).

While respondents were not asked why they felt certain fairs should be consolidated--whether because of such factors as size or lack of success--they were asked to indicate which fairs should be consolidated.

The fairs mentioned most frequently for consolidation were Elroy, Juneau, and Rosholt (Tables 23 and 24).

SUMMARY

This report deals primarily with an evaluation of the educational value of Wisconsin's county and district fairs. Information--using mailed questionnaires--was collected from 186 Youth Leaders (88.5% returns), 256 Vo-Ag Teachers (100% returns), 67 4-H Club Agents (98% returns), 70 County Agents (100% returns), and 126 Judges (96% returns). Data were obtained concerning: (1) social characteristics of these Youth Leaders, Educators, and Judges, (2) their involvement in fairs, (3) their perceptions of the educational value of fairs, (4) exhibit judging, (5) exhibit Judges, (6) exhibit regulations, (7) general fair evaluation, and (8) fair subsidies and consolidation plans.

Generally speaking, 4-H Club Agents were the youngest and County Agents the oldest of the five groups surveyed. Three of the group were predominantly males--Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, and 4-H Club Agents. The three professional groups--4-H Club Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers, and County Agents--had, by far, achieved the highest education of the five groups. In terms of where they live, Youth Leaders appeared to have the strongest rural ties. A breakdown of the occupations of Youth Leaders and Judges revealed that the largest percentage of the former group were housewives, while the largest percentage in the latter were professionals.

Very few members of any of the five groups surveyed did not attend any district or county fairs at all in 1970. Youth Leaders attended the

fewest number of fairs, but substantial majorities of the other four groups had attended two or more fairs.

The 4-H Club Agents appear to be the most involved in fair work and Vo-Ag Teachers the least. When asked about the type of work they perform at fairs, Youth Leaders and Vo-Ag Teachers revealed they had worked primarily in terms of educational, administrative, and service type activities.

County Agents and 4-H Club Agents spent the most number of hours on fair work--about 140 hours each. Youth Leaders spent the least number of hours on fair work--averaging about 40 hours.

Most 4-H Club Agents and Vo-Ag Teachers attended the State Fair in 1970, but only 42 percent of all respondents had attended the State Fair in 1970. The 4-H Club Agents most frequently mentioned having some responsibility at the State Fair, but overall only 24 percent of the respondents mentioned having some responsibility at the 1970 State Fair.

The majorities of all five groups felt that youths learn either "much" or "very much" from their activities connected with fairs. "Sportsmanship" and "Judging and Evaluation" were cited most frequently as the type of thing youths learned. In general, the learning experience of fairs compared rather favorably with what youths learn in school. As for suggestions to improve the educational value of fairs, the most frequent suggestions concerned fair programs, changes in exhibiting rules and youth involvement.

Generally, all of the groups were well satisfied with the quality of judging at fairs and where criticism was voiced, it usually concerned the criteria used for judging. Most respondents also felt it to be worthwhile to require youths to be present during the judging of their exhibits.

Judges, on the average, said they were qualified to judge about six different classes, but the number of classes actually judged averaged about

three. When asked why they judge, Judges most frequently mentioned they liked the work. The overwhelming majority of Judges planned to judge again in 1971, but a majority also said they would not judge again if not paid for their work. Total fees received for judging in 1970 averaged about $30 and there was a slight tendency for judges to feel they should be paid more.

The majorities of only two groups, Youth Leaders and Judges, favored requiring members of youth organizations to exhibit at fairs--overall, however, 73 percent of all respondents did not favor such a rule. Only one group was in favor of permitting youths to exhibit at more than one fair. As for the type of competition at fairs, more than 70 percent of each of the groups said that fair competition should be open to both open and junior classes.

Substantial majorities of all five groups felt that junior exhibits were the most important aspect of fairs. Among the fair aspects cited as least important were the midway, grandstand show, and commercial exhibits. The majorities of only two groups, 4-H Club Agents and Judges, perceived any aspects of fairs as being harmful to youths--most frequently citing an overemphasis on winning.

Exhibit facilities were cited most frequently as being in need of improvement. Also high on the list for needed improvement were fair programs, fair organization, and exhibit rules.

When asked about what criteria to use for evaluating fair success, most frequently mentioned was the extent of community support a fair was able to muster. Exactly 50 percent of all respondents felt that fairs were holding their own relative to other activities in the counties, while 22 percent felt the importance of fairs was decreasing and 27 percent felt it was increasing. Fair participation trends and competition from other events were mentioned most frequently as reasons for these changes.

The majorities of only two groups, Youth Leaders and Vo-Ag Teachers, favored giving fair boards the authority to decide how to spend the state subsidy for fairs. Combining the responses of the five groups, however, (which overrepresents Vo-Ag Teachers' and Youth Leaders' responses) showed that 52 percent favored giving fair boards such authority. All of the groups, by large margins, favored continuing the state subsidy for county and district fairs. Only eight percent of all respondents suggested that the state subsidy be either reduced or eliminated. As the expected effect of eliminating the subsidy, fewer exhibits and generally weaker fairs were cited most frequently.

Only two groups, County Agents and 4-H Club Agents showed much enthusiasm for any consolidation of fairs. The majority of all respondents (69%) were against any consolidation of fairs. The fairs most frequently mentioned for possible consolidation were Elroy, Juneau, and Rosholt.

IMPLICATIONS

The data gathered from Youth Leaders, Educators, and Judges suggest that county and district fairs fill important needs of the people in Wisconsin. Based on opinions of County Agents and 4-H Club Agents there is some indication that fairs may be decreasing somewhat in terms of their importance relative to other activities in the county, but continue to be important events for many people.

County and district fairs were adjudged by repondents to fill not only educational needs, but social and vocational needs as well.

County and district fairs cannot rest on past accomplishments, however. Changes will be necessary. The following conclusions are tentative, and may be modified or strengthened in subsequent reports, depending upon the results obtained from the remainder of the sample groups in this study:

a. The county and district fair program in Wisconsin should be made even more youth-oriented. This can be done, in part, by involving youth in the planning of fairs, but should not be done in such a way as to alienate the great many adults who play supporting roles in the production of fairs--without whom the fairs simply would not succeed.

b. Premium schedules must be flexible and should be updated frequently to encourage more exhibits involving hobby and recreational skills, and other areas of learning relevant to the youth of particular locales. This does not necessarily mean that the number of agricultural and home-making exhibits should be decreased, or decline in importance.

c. The educational aspects of judging should be improved. Because of problems in scheduling and inadequate space at most fairs, it is unrealistic to expect that all exhibitors be present when judging occurs. However, substitute means should be devised so as to inform exhibitors of specific strengths and weaknesses of their exhibits. For some classes of exhibits this may require additional judges and clerks, and certainly an immediate upgrading of (1) buildings and facilities used for exhibiting, (2) the judging situation so as to extract from it its maximum educational benefits, and (3) the method of awarding prizes. Rewards for exhibits should be presented in a more dramatic manner than they now are at most fairs so as to maximize motivation and learning.

d. Unsafe and unsanitary conditions appear to be a problem at some fairs, and should be eliminated, perhaps by means of state codes which would provide for the withholding of aids from those fairs not complying.

e. Until such time that additional data are available, it is recommended that the State of Wisconsin continue premium subsidies in the same amount as in the past, and not take steps to force consolidation of any fairs. Subsequent reports will contain recommendations on these questions, as well as on issues such as continuation of Open-Class exhibits, and premiums--their amount and source.

APPENDIX

Table 1. The Age, Sex and Education of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges, Wisconsin 1970.

A. Age	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 30	16	9	99	39	3	4	26	40	26	21
30-44	103	55	85	33	23	33	30	46	44	35
45=59	56	30	63	25	40	57	9	14	35	28
60 or more	10	5	7	3	4	6			19	15
N.R.	2	1	2	1					2	2
B. Sex										
Male	36	19	255	100	67	96	59	91	70	56
Female	149	80			3	4	6	9	55	44
N.R.	2	1	1	0					1	1
C. Education										
0-8	16	9							4	3
9-11	19	10							6	5
12- H.S.	95	51							14	11
13-15	32	17			1	1			8	6
16 college	19	10	80	31	9	13	27	42	40	32
17 graduate	4	2	175	68	59	84	38	58	53	42
N.R.	2	1	1	1					1	1
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 2. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Location of Home, Wisconsin 1970.

Where do you live?	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Farm	111	59	40	16	4	6	4	6	31	25
Open country	36	19	36	14	12	17	13	20	27	21
Village under 1,000	14	8	68	27	3	4	4	6	8	6
Small city 25,000 or less	21	11	106	41	39	56	31	48	39	31
Large city 25,000 or more	3	2	6	2	11	16	13	20	20	16
N.R.	2	1			1	1			1	1
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 3. Distribution of Youth Leaders and Judges Responses Regarding Their Occupations, Wisconsin 1970.

Occupation	Youth Leaders		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%
Student	6	3	2	2
Professional	12	6	71	56
Proprietor	4	2	3	2
Farmer	24	13	16	13
Salesman	1	1	3	2
Blue-collar	13	7	4	3
White-collar	9	5	2	2
Retired	1	1	9	7
Housewife	113	60	14	11
N.R.	4	2	2	2
TOTAL	187		126	

Table 4. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding the Number of Fairs Attended and the Number of Fairs at Which Each Group Had Some Responsibility, Wisconsin 1970.

A. Number of fairs attended	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	4	2	3	1	1	1	1	2		
One	114	61	83	32	15	21	12	19	23	18
Two or more	67	36	169	66	54	77	52	80	103	82
N.R.	2	1	1	1						
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	
B. Number of fairs where each group had some responsibility										
None	24	13	11	4	Not questioned		3	5		
One	148	79	146	57			23	35	61	48
Two	10	5	72	28			14	22	32	25
Three or more	3	2	26	10			25	39	33	27
N.R.	2	1	1	1						
TOTAL	187		256				65		126	

Table 5. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents and 4-H Agents Regarding Time Spent on Fair Activities, Wisconsin 1970.

Hours	Youth Leaders (N=187)			Vo-Ag Teachers (N=256)			County Agents (N=70			4-H Agents (N=55)		
	Before %	During %	After %	Before %	During %	After %	Before %	During %	After %	Before %	During %	After %
0-9	31	36	52	25	9	61	7	4	27	2	3	17
10-19	23	23	6	26	20	17	16	0	34	11	0	26
20-39	18	12	2	22	38	2	20	19	20	15	20	37
40-59	6	5	0	12	18	1	23	40	6	31	40	9
60-79	4	2	1	4	6	0	7	27	3	9	22	0
80-99	1	1	0	1	2	0	9	7	4	12	9	2
100 or more	3	1	1	4	3	0	17	3	4	12	2	0
N.R.	16	21	39	6	6	18	1	0	1	8	5	9
Ave. hours spent	16	19	9	29	35	11	59	56	28	63	54	24

Table 6. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Their Attendance and Responsibility at the State Fair, Wisconsin 1970.

A. Attendance at State fair	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	27	14	140	55	29	41	48	74	55	44
No	158	85	115	45	39	56	17	26	71	56
N.R.	2	1	1	0	2	3				
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	
B. Responsibility at State fair										
Yes	5	3	91	36	Not questioned		40	62	16	13
No	22	12	48	19			10	15	39	31
N.R.	160	86	117	46			15	23	71	56
TOTAL	187		256				65		126	

Table 7. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Regarding How Much They Think Youths Learn at Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

How much do youths learn?	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Very much	73	39	112	44	19	27	13	20	51	41
Much	83	44	97	38	34	49	24	37	37	29
Some	25	13	38	15	15	21	23	35	27	21
Little	4	2	3	1	2	3	2	3	7	6
Nothing	1	1	1	1			1	2		
Depends on individual			1	1			2	3	2	2
N.R.	1	1	4	2					2	2
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 8. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Regarding What They Think Junior Exhibitors Learn from Exhibiting, Wisconsin 1970.

What is learned	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sportsmanship	56	30	58	23	12	17	8	12	24	23
Exhibit preparation	10	5	8	3	6	9	6	9	14	11
Showmanship	10	5	36	14	5	7	4	6	2	2
Responsibility	25	13	28	11	2	3	9	14	11	9
Specific skills	22	12	21	8	13	19	4	6	6	5
Judging and evaluation	35	19	49	19	19	27	17	26	47	37
Social skills	18	10	48	19	9	13	8	12	10	8
Some other answer	1	0					7	11	1	1
Nothing	2	1			2	3			5	4
N.R.	8	4	8	3	2	3	2	3	1	1
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 9. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Concerning the Number of School Days That Are Equal to the Educational Experience of Exhibiting, Wisconsin 1970.

Days of school equivalent to exhibiting	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	3	2	1	0	2	3			3	2
1-4 days	52	28	50	20	16	23	15	23	34	27
5-9 days	36	19	72	28	15	21	17	26	15	12
10-19 days	30	16	56	22	21	30	12	19	33	26
20-29 days	9	5	15	6	3	4	1	2	1	1
30 or more days	30	16	20	8	6	9	3	5	18	14
No comparison possible	15	8	32	13			12	19	22	18
Some other response			1	0	1	1				
No response	12	6	9	4	6	9	5	8		
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 10. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Regarding Their Opinions on How to Make Fairs More Educationally Valuable, Wisconsin 1970.

Making fairs more educational	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	65	35	78	31	6	9	2	3	16	13
Improved programs	17	9	46	18	9	13	4	6	11	9
Eliminate undesirable sales	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	1	1
Change exhibiting rules	12	6	12	5	4	6	8	12	8	6
Lower gate prices, higher premiums	1	1	7	3	1	1			1	1
Upgrade midway	2	1	7	3					1	1
Improve judging	32	17	40	16	30	43	35	54	54	43
Involve young people more	15	8	29	11	11	16	6	9	13	10
Other	6	3	10	4			3	5	4	3
Change date, not during school			2	1						
N.R.	35	19	22	7	8	11	5	8	17	14
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 11. Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Evaluation of Judging at County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

A. Are you pleased with the quality of judging?	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	131	70	233	91	63	90	54	83	105	83
No	50	27	21	8	5	7	8	12	19	15
Undecided	1	0					3	5		
N.R.	5	3	2	1	2	3	1	2	2	2
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	
B. If no, what was wrong with the judging?										
Poor organization	3	2	1	0	1	1			1	1
No explanation for loss of points	5	3	1	0	2	3			2	2
Disappointed with results	2	1								
Apparent unfairness	9	5	2	1					1	1
Embarrassment									1	1
Disagree with judging criteria	14	8	7	3			4	6	6	5
Insufficient attention given to some categories	3	2					1	2		
Should be judged by peers									1	1
Judge lacked knowledge, training	10	5	8	3	1	1	3	5	5	4
No information	4	2	2	1	1	1			2	2
TOTAL	50		21		5		8		19	

Table 12. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Regarding Required Attendance of Exhibitors During Judging at Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Required to attend judging	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	97	52	228	89	57	81	41	63	91	72
No	83	44	20	8	12	17	18	28	34	27
Livestock only	1	1	5	2						
Does not apply							1	2		
Open-class only	2	1	1	0						
N.R.	4	2	2	1	1	1	5	8	1	1
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 13. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Requiring Youth Members to Exhibit at Fairs, Allowing Youths to Exhibit at More Than One Fair, and the Type of Competition at Fairs, Wisconsin, 1970.

A. Required to exhibit	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	107	57	51	20	16	23	5	8	63	50
No	72	39	202	79	54	77	56	86	61	48
N.R.	8	4	3	1			4	6	2	2
B. Exhibiting at more than one fair	**Youth Leaders**		**Vo-Ag Teachers**		**County Agents**		**4-H Agents**		**Judges**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	91	49	166	65	14	20	19	29	61	48
No.	91	49	89	35	56	80	42	65	63	50
N.R.	5	3	1	0			4	6	2	2
C. Competition Type	**Youth Leaders**		**Vo-Teachers**		**County Agents**		**4-H Agents**		**Judges**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Junior Class	18	10	44	17	15	21	12	19	24	19
Both	161	86	206	81	51	73	48	74	99	79
Don't know	3	2	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	1
Open-class only			1	0						
N.R.	5	3	3	1	2	3	4	6	2	2
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 14. Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding the "Most Important" and "Least Important" Aspects of County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Activity	Youth Leaders				Vo-Ag Teachers				County Agents				4-H Agents				Judges			
	Most		Least		Most		Least		Most		Least		Most		Least		Most		Least	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Refreshment stands	3	2	14	8	1	0	22	9	-	-	7	10	2	3	11	17	3	2	6	5
Midway	6	3	97	52	5	2	144	56	2	2	18	25	2	3	22	34	3	3	79	63
Junior exhibits	148	79	3	2	210	82	5	2	60	86	2	3	52	80			95	75	1	1
Open-class	10	5	7	4	15	6	13	5	1	1	8	11	1	2	6	9	15	12	5	4
Commercial exhibits	2	1	38	20	12	5	16	6	1	1	3	4			7	11	1	1	11	9
Grandstand show	1	0	11	6	7	3	39	15	1	1	20	29	1	2	15	23	1	1	13	10
All	8	4			4	2			1	1	2	3	4	6			6	5		
Social aspects	1	0											1	2			1	1		
Management													1	2						
Beer stands			6	3			1	0			2	3								
None			1	0			8	3							2	3			8	6
No response	8	4	10	5	2	1	8	3	4	6	8	11	1	2	2	3	1	1	3	2
TOTAL	187		187		256		256		70		70		65		65		126		126	

Table 15. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Harmful Aspects of County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Harmful Aspects	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	118	63	150	59	37	53	17	26	46	37
Beer sales	8	4	7	3	1	1	1	2	2	2
Unsupervised activities	7	4	17	7			1	2	5	4
Unsafe midway	9	5	17	7	8	11	3	5	17	14
Unfair competition	5	3	3	1	2	3	7	11		
Inconsistent judging	9	5	1	0	2	3	2	3	3	2
Overemphasis on winning	15	8	27	11	13	19	26	40	40	32
Breeders commercial-ization	1	0	6	2	1	1			1	1
Expense	1	0	9	4	2	3				
Other	2	1	5	2	1	1	5	8	5	4
No response	12	6	14	6	3	4	3	5	7	6
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 16. Distribution of Youth Leaders, 4-H Agents, County Agents, Vo-Ag Teachers and Judges Responses Regarding Improvements Needed at County Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Improvements needed	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
None	23	12	15	6	2	3	1	2	6	5
Exhibit facilities	48	26	81	32	28	40	19	29	42	33
Animal facilities	3	2	5	2	3	4	3	5		
People facilities	8	4	10	4	5	7	5	8	3	2
Midway	5	3	2	1	1	1			1	1
Program	19	10	19	7	14	20	11	17	16	13
Prices	2	1	1	0						
Exhibit rules	12	6	13	5	2	3	11	17	13	10
Organization	13	7	33	13	2	3	4	6	9	7
Judging	7	4	2	1	1	1	4	6	1	1
N.R.	47	25	75	29	12	17	7	11	35	28
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 17. County Agents and 4-H Agents Responses Regarding the Criteria for Evaluating the Success of County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Criteria	County Agents		4-H Agents	
	No.	%	No.	%
Attendance	3	4	5	8
No. exhibitors	6	9	3	5
Profit	1	1		
Community support	47	67	42	65
Educational opportunities			6	9
All			2	3
Other			6	9
N.R.	13	19	1	2
TOTAL	70		65	

Table 18. County Agents and 4-H Agents Responses Regarding the Changing Importance of Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Changes	County Agents		4-H Agents	
	No.	%	No.	%
Decreasing	17	24	13	20
Same	29	41	38	59
Increasing	23	33	14	22
N.R.	1	1		
TOTAL	70		65	

Table 19. Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Views on Whether Fair Boards Should be Given the Authority to Decide How to Spend the State Subsidy for County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Fair boards should be able to decide how to spend state subsidy	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	112	60	152	59	21	30	23	35	57	45
No	57	31	97	38	47	67	33	51	63	50
Don't know	3	2					1	2	2	7
N.R.	15	8	7	3	2	3	8	12	4	3

Table 20. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding the State Subsidy to County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Opinions about the subsidy	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Eliminate	3	2	8	3	1	1	8	12	10	8
Reduce	3	2	9	4	4	6			12	10
Keep at same level	128	68	139	54	45	64	32	49	68	54
Increase	43	23	94	37	18	26	21	32	33	26
Same or increase	1	0	2	1						
N.R.	9	5	4	2	2	3	4	6	3	2
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 21. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Possible Effects of Eliminating State Subsidies to County and District Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Anticipated effect of subsidy elimination	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Fewer entries	90	48	82	32	14	20	13	20	48	38
Weaken fairs	61	33	123	48	43	61	30	46	58	46
Smaller attendance	3	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	1
Little effect	6	3	17	7			5	8	7	6
Eliminate money hungry exhibitors	5	3	1	0			1	2	1	1
Effect varies from fair to fair			4	2	2	3	7	11	2	2
Raise premium money themselves	2	1	8	3	5	7	2	3	2	2
Improve business operation			2	1	1	1	1	2		
Don't know	1	1	1	0					2	2
N.R.	19	10	17	7	4	6	5	8	5	4
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 22. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Possible Consolidation of Fairs, Wisconsin 1970.

Opinions about consolidation	Youth Leaders		Vo-Ag Teachers		County Agents		4-H Agents		Judges	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	7	4	42	16	18	26	15	23	20	16
No	159	85	184	72	41	59	32	49	72	57
Don't know	4	2	6	2	1	1	3	5	15	12
N.R.	17	9	24	9	10	14	15	23	19	15
TOTAL	187		256		70		65		126	

Table 23. Distribution of Youth Leaders, Vo-Ag Teachers, County Agents, 4-H Agents and Judges Responses Regarding Fair Consolidation, Wisconsin, 1970.

YOUTH LEADERS

Ashland - Glidden District
Buffalo - Gilmanton
Pepin - Buffalo
Pepin - Dunn
Winnebago - Fond du Lac

VO-AG TEACHERS

Blakes - Grant
Burnett - Polk
Central Burnett - Burnett
Clark - Central Wis. State Fair
Crawford - Village & City Festivals
Dane - Dodge
Dane Co. - Rock
Dane - Stoughton
Door - Kewaunee
Dunn - St. Croix
Eau Claire - Chippewa Falls
Elroy - Juneau
Grant - Boire Prairie
Grant - Fennimore
Jackson - Clark
Jackson - Trempealeau
Jefferson - Dane
Jefferson - Walworth
Lafayette - Iowa
Marquette - Adams
Monroe - Elroy
Racine - Kenosha
Rock - Walworth
Rosholt - Amherst
Rosholt - Central Wis. State Fair

COUNTY AGENTS

Adams - Marquette
Ashland - Bayfield
Elroy - Juneau
Green Lake Jr. - Wisconsin Valley Fair
Lodi - Rosholt
Manitowoc - Calumet
Outagamie - Calumet
Sauk - Rosholt
Winnebago - Outagamie

4-H AGENTS

Eau Claire - Chippewa
Elroy - Juneau
Rosholt - Amherst
Sawyer - Washburn
Sheboygan - Manitowoc

JUDGES

Blakes - Grant
Burnett - Central Burnett
Calumet - Manitowoc
Dane Co. - Stoughton
Dunn - St. Croix
Elroy - Juneau
Outagamie - Waupaca
Sawyer - Burnett
Waukesha - Milwaukee Jr.

Table 24. The Frequency of Suggested Fair Consolidations Suggested by Youth Leaders, Educators, and Judges, Wisconsin 1970.

Elroy - 8
Juneau - 8
Rosholt - 8
Amherst - 5 *
Dane Co. - 5
Burnett - 3
Calumet - 3
Dunn - 3
Jackson - 3
Outagamie - 3
Stoughton - 3
Adams - 2
Ashland - 2
Blakes - 2
Buffalo - 2
Central Burnett - 2
Central Wis. State Fair - 2
Clark - 2
Eau Claire - 2
Grant - 2
Jefferson - 2
Manitowoc - 2
Northern Wis. District Fair - 2
Pepin - 2
Rock - 2
Sawyer - 2
St. Croix - 2
Trempealeau - 2
Walworth - 2
Winnebago - 2

Adams - 1
Bayfield - 1
Boire Prairie - 1 *
Crawford - 1
Dodge - 1
Door - 1
Fennimore - 1 *
Fond du Lac - 1
Gilmanton Com. Fair - 1 *
Glidden District - 1 *
Green Lake Jr. - 1
Iowa - 1
Kenosha - 1
Kewaunee - 1
Lafayette - 1
Lodi - 1
Marquette - 1
Milwaukee Jr. - 1
Monroe - 1
Polk - 1
Racine - 1
Sauk - 1
Sheboygan - 1
Washburn - 1
Waukesha - 1
Waupaca - 1
Wis. Valley Fair - 1

* Unofficial fairs (do not receive State aid).

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